(b) whether the scheme includes promotion of Readers as Professors in affiliated colleges of universities;

(c) whether the NCERT has promoted its Readers as Professors in Regional Colleges of Education, redesignated as Regional Institute of Education, which are affiliated to various universities; and

(d) if so, whether the NCERT has violated UGC rules in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Yes. Sir.

(d) No. Sir.

Production of pulses in Andhra Pradesh

*572. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh is one of the leading States in the production of pulses;

(b) if so. the details thereof, including the area in which pulses are being grown;

(c) whether Government have taken any initiative to expand the area of pulse production in the State;

(d) if so. the details thereof; and

(e) what steps Government have taken to maximize the yield level of pulses in that State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes. Sir. Andhra Pradesh is one of the major pulses producing States. The State-wise area, and production of pulses during last three years is given in Statement *(See* below).

(c) and (d) The Government of India has suggested to State of Andhra Pradesh to expand the area under pulses under the following categories :—

(i) Popularisation of Black gram (urad) in coastal region of Andhra Pradesh.

(ii) Popularisation of short duration varieties of moong and urad as summer crop after the harvest of Rabi crops in irrigated areas of A P.

(iii) Inter cropping of Arhar/Moong/Urad with Cotton Groundnut and Soyabean in the State.

(e) To maximize the production of pulses in the country, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is being implemented in 30 States/U.Ts. including the State of Andhra Pradesh. The scheme envisages financial assistance to the farmers through State Government for production and distribution of seeds, seed minikits, rhyzobium culture, sprinkler sets and improved farm implements etc. In addition to this, field demonstrations and farmers training are also being organised for the transfer of improved production and protection technologies to farmers" field for increasing the production of pulses.

Statement

State-wise area and production of pulses during last three years

Area-Lakh hectare

Prodn-Lakh Tonnes

S.No.	State/UTs.	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
		Area	Prodn.	Area	Prodn.	Area	Prodn.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15.65	5.16	15.87	8.27	15.46	7.61
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.07	0.07	0.072	0.07	0.05	0.05
3.	Assam	1.18	0.61	1.27	0.67	1.16	0.63
4.	Bihar	9.11	6.61	8.93	7.92	8.86	7.09
5.	Goa	0.10	0.07	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.06
6.	Gujarat	8.95	6.08	8.62	6.34	7.00	4.05
7.	Himachal Pradesh	0.35	0.12	0.35	0.13	0.35	0.18
8.	Haryana	4.22	3.74	4.27	3.53	1.34	0.75
9.	J&K	0.33	0.18	0.32	0.18	0.29	0.24

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Karnataka	16.81	4.91	18.20	7.47	18.77	8.36
11.	Kerala	0.35	0.27	0.29	0.23	0.24	0.19
12.	Madhya Pradesh	50.15	32.78	50.23	36.19	51.13	37.95
13.	Maharashtra	32.60	11.86	34.99	22.55	36.05	21.84
14.	Manipur	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	Meghalaya	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.03
16.	Mizoram	0.04	0.07	0.05	0.09	0.04	0.05
17.	Nagaland	0.17	012	0.19	0.12	0.17	0.13
18.	Orissa	7.86	2.86	7.22	2.49	6.86	2.43
19.	Punjab	0.88	0.6	0.78	0.51	0.65	0.42
20.	Rajasthan	43.89	26.30	46.44	24.44	24.79	9.04
21.	Sikkim	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.12	0.09
22.	Tamil Nadu	5.92	2.38	6.37	3.04	8.55	3.64
23.	Tripura	0.09	0.05	0.08	0.04	0.08	0.04
24.	Uttar Pradesh	27.54	22.80	28.10	23.24	26.94	25.96
25.	West Bengal	2.21	1.48	2.01	1.26	2.74	2.15
26.	A &N Island	0.02	0.02	0.007	0.00	0.007	0.00
27.	Delhi	0.01	0.02	0.004	0.00	0004	0.00
28.	Others	0.11	0.63	0.10	0.07	0.09	0.07
	TOTAL	228.72	129.79	235.00	149.07	211.90	133.50

Indo-US Science and Technology Forum

*573. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and US have signed an agreement to set up an Indo-US Science and Technology Forum;